

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF MEETING

A meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners was held in the Community Room at the Burlington Police Department on **Tuesday, May 24, 2016**. Chair Kenney called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

The following Commissioners were present: Chair Sarah Kenney, Commissioner Paul Hochanadel, and Commissioner Christine Kemp Longmore. Also present were Deputy Chief Bruce Bovat, Deputy Chief Jan Wright and Kimberly Caron, Police Commission Clerk.

Additions or Modifications to Agenda:

~There were no additions or modifications to the agenda.

Public Forum:

~Representative Jean O'Sullivan addressed the Commission on a coffee event she recently attended. She explained that some constituents were concerned about any potential police response to a disruptive tenant at the Thayer House. Representative O'Sullivan suggested the Commission host a public forum on police tactics. She also thanked the officers, commissioners and staff for the great work they all do.

Chief's Report:

~The Queen City Police Foundation held their awards ceremony on Monday. Approximately 270 people attended the luncheon. Budnitz Bikes brought in a model of the bike they are building for the new Department bike patrol. The Chief announced Officer Kratochvil's intent to attend the Harvard Kennedy school for his Masters program.

~The Department is refining the citizen complaint process. The form can now be completed online. The Department is working on adding a mediation tab to the online process soon.

~Four officers just graduated from the Police Academy last Friday. They will attend Post Basic at the Academy and then come back to Burlington to begin their Field Training.

~ There was a rumor regarding an incident involving two officers spraying a man with pepper spray in the back of a police cruiser. The rumor on social media was the man was an elderly African American male. The subject was actually a 50 year old white male. There is a Lieutenant assigned to investigate the incident and review body camera footage.

~The Imam is coming in during roll call to train officers on Ramadan and the affects it could have on the people practicing it. The Imam has spoken to the Day Shift roll call and is scheduled to speak with the Evening and Midnight shifts soon.

~The Marathon is coming up on Sunday. Discussion followed on safety and practices for the event.

~The 3rd annual barbecue event took place on May 5th. It was very successful. There was a much larger attendance than the previous years. There was more of a cross section of Old North End residents in attendance. Discussion followed. There was positive feedback from everyone involved in the barbecue.

Update on Domestic Violence Prevention Officer position:

~Corporal Krystal Wrinn updated the Commission on her position. Corporal Wrinn explained the High Point model, which focuses on the offender and their behavior, instead of focusing on the victim. She explained that domestic violence is currently very victim focused. Burlington has excellent resources for the victims of domestic violence, which is great; but the goal is to work on holding offenders accountable for their behavior and make them responsible for their actions, using the High Point model. Discussion

followed. Corporal Wrinn is working with different agencies throughout Chittenden County to shift the focus of accountability from the victim to the offender.

Discussion on Proposal for Community Circles of Accountability:

~Commissioner Kemp Longmore explained the Community Circles of Accountability proposal to the Commission. The proposal would form a group of community members that would encourage citizens who don't feel comfortable addressing police officers about their experiences with police to meet with a group member and one member of the Police Department to further bridge the gap between them and work to dissolve the distrust the citizens have toward police and resolve any complaints they have toward police. Discussion followed. Chair Kenney asked Commissioner Kemp Longmore what the next steps are. Commissioner Kemp Longmore is going to set up a meeting with Chief del Pozo to discuss this proposal further.

Update on March 21, 2016 Officer-Involved Shooting Incident:

~The SA's office completed their investigation and most of the footage of the 3/21/16 incident was released to the public. Chair Kenney asked what documentation would be available to the panel members that would be attending the June Commission meeting to discuss the City Council's resolution regarding this incident. Discussion followed. Chair Kenney will follow up with Chief del Pozo to get the necessary documentation of the incident for the panel's review prior to June's Commission meeting. Currently the panel consists of former Vermont Senator Jim Leddy, Hilary Melton from Pathways, and Chair Kenney is reaching out to the Howard Center for other panelists.

Incoming Correspondence:

~There was no incoming correspondence.

Commissioners' Updates/Comments:

~Commissioner Kemp Longmore commented on how amazing Corporal Wrinn's explanation of the Domestic Violence Prevention Officer position was. She hopes Corporal Wrinn is supported by the Department as she continues her difficult work.

Review Updated Directives:

~There were no Directives to be updated.

Consent Agenda – Minutes of the April 26, 2016 Meeting:

~ Commissioner Hochanadel moved to approve the 4/26/2016 minutes. Commissioner Kemp Longmore seconded; all in favor, so passed.

Next Meeting's Agenda Items and Date:

~The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

~Chair Kenney requested a discussion of the Annual Commissioner's Report to the City Council be added to the agenda.

~Commissioner Kemp Longmore requested an update of the proposal for community circles of accountability be added to the agenda.

~Chair Kenney requested that an update on the March 21, 2016 Officer-Involved Shooting be added to the agenda.

Executive Session:

~ Chair Kenney moved to enter Executive Session to discuss the employment of a public officer and employee. Commissioner Hochanadel seconded; all in favor, so passed. Executive Session entered at 7:40 p.m. Executive Session ended at 7:59 p.m.

Adjournment:

~Commissioner Hochanadel moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Chair Kenney seconded; all in favor, so passed.